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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/511,526	02/23/2000	Barry W. Jones	99ec019/76257	4196

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Welsh & Katz LTD
120 South Riverside Plaza
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Chicago, IL 60606

EXAMINER

PHILPOTT, JUSTIN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2665

DATE MAILED: 06/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/511,526

Applicant(s)

JONES, BARRY W.

Examiner

Justin M Philpott

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 18-46 and 48-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 18-46 and 48-54 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 55 and 56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on April 12, 2004 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 55 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,841,771 to Irwin et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,825,779 to Putnins et al.

Regarding claim 55, Irwin teaches a method of exchanging information between at least some slots of a first T-carrier and some other non-coincidental slots of a second T-carrier (e.g., see col. 14, lines 10-20 and FIGS. 5-7), comprising the steps of: exchanging information between successive slots of the first T-carrier and respective predetermined memory locations within a memory device (e.g., see col. 48, lines 59-63 and col. 15, lines 12-63, particularly lines 28-30), and exchanging information between successive slots of the second T-carrier and at least some of the predetermined locations in memory of the first T-carrier based upon a channel exchange list (e.g., see col. 48, line 65 – col. 49, line 7, and channel connection mapping in col.

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43, lines 36-51) relating at least some channels of the first T-carrier to at least some other channels of the second T-carrier. However, Irwin may not specifically disclose compressing information.

Putnins also teaches a method of exchanging information and, further, teaches compressing information. Specifically, Putnins teaches various levels of compression are selected for the information (e.g., see col. 2, line 9 – col. 3, line 25). Furthermore, Putnins teaches look-up tables (e.g., 100 and 110, see col. 5, line 26 – col. 6, line 59) within memory 90 (e.g., see FIG. 3) are utilized to provide instructions for controlling the amount of compression (e.g., according to column 108). Specifically, Putnins teaches a signal may be routed to ASM 74 in one direction for compressing the voice messages according to specific levels (e.g., see col. 5, lines 6-16) or may be routed in another direction to ASM 74 for decompressing the signal (i.e., “expand[ing] received voice messages to ‘normal’ bandwidth”, see col. 5, lines 18-20). Signal routing is performed by T1/E1 modules 64 and 66 being controlled by DSM 84 coupled to the above-mentioned memory 90. Finally, Putnins teaches the destination address (e.g., columns 102/112 of tables 100/110) of each message determines whether the information should be compressed or decompressed (see FIGS. 4 and 5), wherein each destination address implicitly comprises specific bit locations uniquely identifying the address which are utilized for the determining step. The teachings of Putnins provide for an improved system wherein different levels of quality of service can be maintained for particular information (wherein quality of service corresponds to compression level, e.g., see col. 3, lines 14-20). Thus, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply the teachings of

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Putnins to the method of Irwin in order to provide an improved system wherein different levels of quality of service for information are maintained.

Regarding claim 56, as discussed above regarding claim 55, Putnins teaches compressing information wherein following transmission the system implicitly de-compresses the information prior to processing or overwriting memory locations. Also as discussed above, the teachings of Putnins provide for an improved system wherein different levels of quality of service can be maintained for particular information (wherein quality of service corresponds to compression level, e.g., see col. 3, lines 14-20). Thus, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to apply the teachings of Putnins to the method of Irwin in order to provide an improved system wherein different levels of quality of service for information are maintained.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-16, 18-46 and 48-54 are allowed.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: independent claims 1, 16, 35 and 45 recite limitations wherein the step of determining whether the exchanged information should be compressed or decompressed further comprises compressing and saving the information under both compressed and uncompressed formats and selecting one of the compressed and uncompressed formats based upon the status of the specific bit locations, and wherein the step of determining whether the exchanged data should be decompressed further comprises decompressing the information and overwriting corresponding predetermined memory locations with the decompressed information when the status of the

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specific bit locations indicate that the corresponding predetermined memory locations contain compressed data. Claims 2-15, 18-34, 36-44, 46 and 48-54 depend upon, and include further limitations of, one of claims 1, 16, 35 and 45, and therefore are also allowed.


Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin M Philpott whose telephone number is 703.305.7357. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy D Vu can be reached on 703.308.6602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Justin M Philpott


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